

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 03592 191034Z

20

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /054 W

----- 090740

O R 190938Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES ITALY IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1145

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 3592

NOFORN

PASS CINCSOUTH FROM AMBASSADOR HELMS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MILI, IR

SUBJ: PROPOSED VISIT OF CINCSOUTH TO IRAN

REFERENCE: TEHRAN 3589 AND PREVIOUS

1. APPRECIATE GREAT INCONVENIENCE THAT WILL BE CAUSED YOU AS  
RESULT OF DROPPING IRAN FROM YOUR PROPOSED CENTO VISIT ITINERARY,  
BUT IT WOULD NOT BE DESIRABLE FROM STANDPOINT OF US INTERESTES IN  
IRAN TO HAVE BISIT TAKE PLACE AT THIS TIME.

2. I WILL NOT BE IN IRAN DURING YOUR PLANNED STAY AND MY DEPUTY  
WILL BE TOTALLY ABSORBED WITH NUMBER OF OTHER VISITING DELEGATIONS.  
GEN. BRETT WILL BE COMPLETELY OCCUPIED BY COINCIDENT VISIT OF  
GEN. JONES. WE DO NOT WISH TO HAVE SENIOR USG OFFICIALS VISIT IRAN  
WITHOUT HAVING OUR SENIOR OFFICERS SHOW THEM APPROPRIATE ATTENTION.  
THAT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE IN YOUR CASE. SECONDLY, AS MENTIONED  
EARLIER, IF YOU WERE TO COME, WE WOULD HAVE SIX FLAG-RANK US  
OFFICERS (5 NAVY, 1 AIR FORCE) IN THREE WEEK PERIOD. FIVE OF THESE  
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OFFICERS WOULD ARRIVE ON SPECIALLY DESIGNATED US AIRCRAFT.

I NEED NOT TELL YOU WHAT KIND OF REACTION A DISTORTED VERSION OF THIS SITUATION WOULD PARODUCE IN CONGRESS AND THE US PRESS. OUR MILITARY PROGRAM IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO US IN IRAN AND WE HAVE ENOUGH DIFFICULTIES FROM THOSE QUARTERS AS IT IS. THIRDLY, THIS IS A PERIOD OF INTENSE ACTIVITY FOR SENIOR IRANIAN LEADERS. AT THE TIME YOU PROPOSE TO COME GOI IS TO HAVE HERE LEADERS OF AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ, AMONT OTHERS. A FORTY-MAN UK ECONOMIC MISSION LED BY CHANCELLOR OR EXCHEQUER HEALY COMES THE END OF THIS MONTH. A NEW POLITICAL PARTY IS BEING ORGANIZED THEN. AND THE SHAH LEAVES IRAN IN EARLY MAY. THE INVITATION OF OUR HOSPITABLE IRANIAN FRIENDS NOTWITHSTANDING, AN OFFICER OF YOUR STATURE WOULD NOT RECEIVE APPROPRIATE TREATMENT AT THIS TIME.

3. IF THERE ARE CONSIDERATIONS MAKING A VISIT DESIRABLE AT THIS TIME THAT WE ARE UNAWARE OF, I AM ASKING WITH THIS MESSAGE THAT THE DEPATMENTS OF STATE AND DEFENSE SET FORTH THESE REASONS AND GIVE US APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS.

4. FOR THE RECORD, MEANS, I AM AFRAID THAT YOU HAVE BEEN BADLY SERVED BY YOUR STAFF ON THIS ENTERPRISE. THIS EMBASSY'S ATTITUDE AND RULES ON MILITARY VISITORS SHOULD BE WELL KNOWN TO THE CINCSOUTH AND CENTO STAFFS. THE RULES ARE SIMPLE AND QUITE CLEAR. EXCEPT IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS, ALL US MILITARY VISITORS TO IRAN, INCLUDING THOSE FROM REGIONAL COMMANDS, ARE REQUIRED TO GIVE THIRTY DAYS' NOTICE. THIS IS TO ENABLE US TO HELP PLAN ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WILL BE OF MAXIMUM VALUE TO US AND OUR VISITORS AND TO AVOID EMBARRASSING CONFLICTS SUCH AS HAS ARISEN IN YOUR CASE. GIVEN THIS BACKGROUND IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT YOUR STAFF DID NOT NOTIFY US WHEN YOUR VISIT WAS FIRST DISCUSSED IN NAPLES SOME MONTHS AGO OR THAT THE COLONEL WHO MWAS HERE FROM CINCSOUTH OR CENTO RECENTLY DID NOT CONTACT ARMISH/MAAG OR THIS EMBASSY FOR OUR REACTION TO THE VISIT HE WAS PLANNING WITH THE IRANIANS.

5. VERY MUCH REGRET ANY INCONVENIENCE CANCELLATION OF VISIT MAY CAUSE. REGARDS.  
HELMS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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